Students who meet or surpass the ACT STEM Benchmark have a high (75 percent) probability of earning a grade of C or higher in first-year college STEM courses. They are also more likely to earn good grades, persist in a college STEM major, and earn a STEM-related bachelor’s degree than those who didn’t meet the benchmark. Another 27 percent of ACT-tested seniors took the ACT 2+ times. The percentage of these 2018 graduates who would have attended college if we fully closed the aspirational gap.

Core Curriculum Increases Readiness

College Readiness Rates are Higher for those who take the Recommended Core Curriculum

Students Who Meet More ACT College Readiness Benchmarks Are required for students to have a reasonable chance of success in first-year college. ACT College Readiness Benchmarks are the minimum ACT test scores such as calculus, biology, chemistry, and physics. They are also more likely to earn good grades, persist in a college STEM major, and earn a STEM-related bachelor’s degree.